

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) [[A]] An isolated DNA sequence encoding a plant protein that has a binding activity to a chitin oligosaccharide elicitor, wherein the DNA sequence is any one of (a) to (d):
 - (a) — a DNA comprising comprises the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: [[1 or]] 3, and lacks a nucleotide sequence that encodes an amino acid sequence from amino acid 1 to amino acid 28 of SEQ ID NO:2;
 - (b) — a DNA that hybridizes with a DNA comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or 3;
 - (c) — a DNA encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4; and
 - (d) — a DNA encoding a protein comprising an amino acid sequence with a substitution, deletion, addition, and/or insertion of one or more amino acids in the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4.
2. (Currently Amended) The DNA sequence of claim 1, wherein the plant is rice.
3. (Withdrawn) A protein encoded by the DNA of claim 1.
4. (Currently Amended) A vector comprising the DNA sequence of claim 1.
5. (Currently Amended) A transformed plant cell that carries comprising the DNA sequence of claim 1.
6. (Original) A plant transformant comprising the transformed plant cell of claim 5, wherein said plant transformant has increased resistance to disease compared to a plant lacking said DNA sequence.
7. (Original) The plant transformant of claim 6, which is derived from rice.

8. (Previously Presented) A plant transformant that is a progeny or a clone of the plant transformant of claim 6.
9. (Previously Presented) A breeding material of the plant transformant of claim 6.
10. (Currently Amended) A method for producing [[the]] a plant transformant, wherein the method comprises the steps of
 - (a) introducing the DNA sequence of claim 1 into a plant cell to produce a transformed plant cell, and
 - (b) regenerating a plant transformant from the transformed plant cell, wherein said plant transformant has increased resistance to disease compared to a plant lacking said DNA sequence.
11. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical agent used to control a plant disease, wherein the agent comprises the DNA of claim 1.
12. (Withdrawn) The pharmaceutical agent of claim 11, wherein the plant is rice.
13. (Withdrawn) The pharmaceutical agent of claim 12, wherein the disease is blast.
14. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling a plant disease, wherein the method comprises the step of expressing the protein of claim 3 the DNA sequence of claim 1 in a cell of a plant to produce a plant that has increased resistance to disease compared to a plant lacking said DNA sequence.
15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the plant is rice.
16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the disease is blast.
17. (New) A plant transformant comprising a transformed plant cell that contains a heterologous DNA sequence that comprises SEQ ID NO:1, wherein said plant transformant has

increased resistance to disease compared to a plant lacking said heterologous DNA sequence.

18. (New) The plant transformant of claim 17, which is derived from rice.
19. (New) A plant transformant that is a progeny or a clone of the plant transformant of claim 17.
20. (New) A breeding material of the plant transformant of claim 17.
21. (New) A method for producing a plant transformant, wherein the method comprises the steps of
 - (a) introducing a heterologous DNA sequence that comprises SEQ ID NO:1 into a plant cell to produce a transformed plant cell, and
 - (b) regenerating a plant transformant from the transformed plant cell, wherein said plant transformant has increased resistance to disease compared to a plant lacking said heterologous DNA sequence.
22. (New) A method for controlling a plant disease, wherein the method comprises the step of expressing a heterologous DNA sequence that comprises SEQ ID NO:1 in a cell of a plant to produce a plant that has increased resistance to disease compared to a plant lacking said heterologous DNA sequence.
23. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein the plant is rice.
24. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein the disease is blast.
25. (New) A plant transformant comprising a transformed plant cell that contains a heterologous DNA sequence encoding a protein that has
 - (i) from 95% to 100% identity with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, and
 - (ii) binding activity to a chitin oligosaccharide elicitor, andwherein said plant transformant has increased resistance to disease compared to a plant lacking

said heterologous DNA sequence.

26. (New) The plant transformant of claim 25, wherein said protein has 100% identity with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

27. (New) The plant transformant of claim 25, which is derived from rice.

28. (New) A plant transformant that is a progeny or a clone of the plant transformant of claim 25.

29. (New) A breeding material of the plant transformant of claim 25.

30. (New) A method for producing a plant transformant, wherein the method comprises the steps of

(a) introducing a heterologous DNA sequence into a plant cell to produce a transformed plant cell, wherein said heterologous DNA sequence encodes a protein that has

(i) from 95% to 100% identity with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, and

(ii) binding activity to a chitin oligosaccharide elicitor, and

(b) regenerating a plant transformant from the transformed plant cell, wherein said plant transformant has increased resistance to disease compared to a plant lacking said heterologous DNA sequence.

31. (New) A method for controlling a plant disease, wherein the method comprises the step of expressing a heterologous DNA sequence in a cell of a plant to produce a plant, wherein said heterologous DNA sequence encodes a protein that has

(i) from 95% to 100% identity with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, and

(ii) binding activity to a chitin oligosaccharide elicitor, and

wherein the produced plant has increased resistance to disease compared to a plant lacking said heterologous DNA sequence .

32. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein the plant is rice.
33. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the disease is blast.
34. (New) A plant transformant comprising a transformed plant cell that contains a heterologous DNA sequence encoding a protein, wherein
 - (i) said protein has
 - (1) from 95% to 100% identity with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4, and
 - (2) binding activity to a chitin oligosaccharide elicitor,
 - (ii) said heterologous DNA lacks a nucleotide sequence that encodes an amino acid sequence from amino acid 1 to amino acid 28 of SEQ ID NO:2, and
 - (iii) said plant transformant has increased resistance to disease compared to a plant lacking said heterologous DNA sequence.
35. (New) The plant transformant of claim 34, wherein said protein has 100% identity with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4.
36. (New) The plant transformant of claim 34, which is derived from rice.
37. (New) A plant transformant that is a progeny or a clone of the plant transformant of claim 34.
38. (New) A breeding material of the plant transformant of claim 34.
39. (New) A method for producing a plant transformant, wherein the method comprises the steps of
 - (a) introducing a heterologous DNA sequence into a plant cell to produce a transformed plant cell, wherein said heterologous DNA sequence
 - (i) encodes a protein that has

- (1) from 95% to 100% identity with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4, and
 - (2) binding activity to a chitin oligosaccharide elicitor, and
- (ii) lacks a nucleotide sequence that encodes an amino acid sequence from amino acid 1 to amino acid 28 of SEQ ID NO:2, and
- (b) regenerating a plant transformant from the transformed plant cell, wherein said plant transformant has increased resistance to disease compared to a plant lacking said heterologous DNA sequence.
40. (New) A method for controlling a plant disease, wherein the method comprises the step of expressing a heterologous DNA sequence in a cell of a plant to produce a plant, wherein said heterologous DNA sequence
- (i) encodes a protein that has
 - (1) from 95% to 100% identity with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4, and
 - (2) binding activity to a chitin oligosaccharide elicitor, and
 - (ii) lacks a nucleotide sequence that encodes an amino acid sequence from amino acid 1 to amino acid 28 of SEQ ID NO:2, and
- wherein the produced plant has increased resistance to disease compared to a plant lacking said heterologous DNA sequence .
41. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein the plant is rice.
42. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein the disease is blast.